

**“Analysis and Nowcast Branch (AFS11):  
A New Branch in NWS HQ to Improve 0-18 Hour Forecast”**

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**Abstract**

By the executive decision of the NWS Administrator, Dr. Louis Uccellini, a new branch, Analysis and Nowcast Branch (AFS11), has recently been created within the Analyze, Forecast, and Support (AFS) Office at the NWS Headquarters in Maryland. The primary responsibilities of AFS11 are; to find methodologies or techniques to improve short-term weather forecast and nowcast (0-18 hours); to verify and validate new tools and innovations, designed to help forecasters assimilate, analyze and exploit environmental data to improve forecast and warning services; and to validate tools created both internally and externally within the weather enterprise, academia, or other federal agencies to verify the accuracy of the information being provided that in turn helps recommend which tools will be targeted for investment and implemented to field offices for operational use. The new branch will seek collaboration with the TBPG community via its OPG delegation (to be hired), in coordination with the Office of Science and Technology Integration (STI). An introduction of AFS11 together with its work scope and perspectives will be presented.